

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented messaging system, comprising:

a messaging client for presenting a dialog interface to a plurality of users at least two users;

a media viewer, communicating with the messaging client, the media viewer selectively presenting a set of shared media objects selected by at least one user with control of an image-sharing session to at least one user without control of the image-sharing session, ~~;~~ and wherein the media viewer is configured to assign two or more control objects to two or more users of the plurality of users, wherein each of the two or more control objects is at least one of a certificate, cookie, or token and is transmissible to another user of the plurality of users such that, upon receipt of one of the two or more objects, a receiving user is permitted to:

(1) control the display of each of the media objects in the set of shared media objects, and

(2) manipulate remote interface elements on one or more media viewers presented to one or more users without one of the two or more control objects;

a presentation engine component in the media viewer for presenting all of the media objects within the set of shared media objects to the at least one user

without control by parallel execution of independent image-processing operations to:

(1) convert at least one media object into a thumbnail-sized representation of the at least one media object for viewing by the at least one user without control,

(2) transfer all of the media objects within the set of shared media objects and the thumbnail-sized representation to the at least one user without control, and

(3) load all of the media objects within the set of shared media objects and the thumbnail-sized representation to be viewed by the at least one user without control.

2. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the messaging client comprises a network-enabled chat client.

3. (Original) A system according to claim 2, wherein the dialog interface comprises at least a mutually viewed chat window presenting typed messages.

4. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the set of shared media objects comprises at least a set of graphical images.

5. (Original) A system according to claim 4, wherein the set of graphical images comprises a set of digital photographs.

6. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the users maintains control of the set of shared media objects selectively presented on the media viewer via a transmissible control object, which may be passed to or shared by other users.

7. (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a selector tool, communicating with the messaging client, the selector tool presenting a set of media objects to select for mutual viewing by the users.

8. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the media viewer is integrated with the messaging client.

9. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the media viewer is separate from the messaging client.

10. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the set of shared media objects comprises at least one of an audio sample and a video clip.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising at least one annotation object presented via the media viewer.

12. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 11, wherein the at least one annotation object comprises at least one of a sticker object and a pointer, the at least one annotation object being controlled by the at least one user maintaining control.

13. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the users share control of presentation of the set of shared media objects.

14. (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising an option to independently select a set of shared media objects to view in the media viewer.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the media viewer comprises an optimized loader, the optimized loader selectively loading media objects in the set of shared media objects to increase response time.

17. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the media viewer comprises a slideshow tool.

18. (Currently Amended) A communications method, comprising:

presenting a dialog interface to a plurality of users ~~at least two users~~ via a messaging client; ~~and~~

selectively presenting, in peer-to-peer fashion, a set of shared media objects selected by at least one user with control of an image-sharing session to at least one user without control of the image-sharing session by parallel execution of independent image-processing operations to:

(1) convert at least one media object into a thumbnail-sized representation of the at least one media object for viewing by the at least one user without control, transfer all of the media objects within the set of shared media objects and the thumbnail-sized representation to the at least one user without control, and

(2) load all of the media objects within the set of shared media objects and the thumbnail-sized representation to be viewed by the at least one user without control; and
assigning two or more control objects to two or more users of the plurality of users, wherein each of the two or more control objects is at least one of a certificate, cookie, or token and is transmissible to another user of the plurality of users such that, upon receipt of one of the two or more objects, a receiving user is permitted to:
(1) control the display of each of the media objects in the set of shared media objects, and
(2) manipulate remote interface elements on one or more media viewers presented to one or more users without one of the two or more control objects; and
on the media viewer being presented to a user who transmitted any of the two or more control objects, graying-out one or more media-viewer controls.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the messaging client comprises a network-enabled chat client.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein the dialog interface comprises at least a mutually viewed chat window presenting typed messages.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the set of shared media objects comprises at least a set of graphical images.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein the set of graphical images comprises a set of digital photographs.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein at least one of the users maintains control of the set of shared media objects selectively presented on a media viewer via a transmissible control object.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 18, further comprising a step of presenting a set of media objects via a selector tool to select for mutual viewing by the users.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the set of media objects is presented via a media viewer integrated with the messaging client.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the set of media objects is presented via a media viewer is separate from the messaging client.

27. (Original) A method according to claim 18, further comprising a step of presenting at least one annotation object via the media viewer.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein at least two of the users share control of presentation of the set of shared media objects.

29. (Original) A method according to claim 18, further comprising presentation of an option to independently select a set of shared media objects to view in the media viewer.

30. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein at least any two of the users may select a set of shared media objects to synchronously view, independently of other users.

31. (Original) A method according to claim 18, further comprising a step of executing an optimized loader, the optimized loader selectively loading media objects in the set of shared media objects to increase response time.

32. (Currently Amended) A ~~set of shared media objects, the set of shared media objects being generated according to a method~~ for sharing media objects, the method comprising:

presenting a dialog interface to at least two users via a messaging client;

executing a selector tool, the selector tool selecting a set of media objects specified by at least one user with control of an image-sharing session to share with at least one user without control of the image-sharing session; and

presenting all of the media objects within the set of media objects to the at least one user without control by executing independent image-processing operations in parallel to:

(1) convert at least one media object into a thumbnail-sized representation of the at least one media object for viewing by the at least one user without control,

(2) transfer all of the media objects within the set of shared media objects and the thumbnail-sized representation to the at least one user without control, and

(3) load all of the media objects within the set of shared media objects and the thumbnail-sized representation to be viewed by the at least one user without control; and
transmitting a control object from the at least one user with control to the at least one user without control, and after the transmission:

(1) allowing the user that received the control object to manipulate remote interface elements presented to the user that transmitted the control object, and
(2) graying-out one of more controls presented to the user that transmitted the control object.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~A set of shared media objects~~ according to claim 32, wherein the messaging client comprises a network-enabled chat client.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~A set of shared media objects~~ according to claim 32, wherein the dialog interface comprises at least a mutually viewed chat window presenting typed messages.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~A set of shared media objects~~ according to claim 32, wherein the set of shared media objects comprises at least a set of graphical images.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~A set of shared media objects~~ according to claim ~~32~~ 35, wherein the set of graphical images comprises a set of digital photographs.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~A set of shared media objects~~
~~according to~~ claim 32, wherein at least one of the users maintains control of the set of shared
media objects selectively presented on a media viewer via a transmissible control object.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~A set of shared media objects~~
~~according to~~ claim 32, wherein the selector tool is integrated with the messaging client.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~A set of shared media objects~~
~~according to~~ claim 32, wherein the selector tool is separate from the messaging client.